

Poetry in Motion

1CD Crew Chews at New Caribou



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Soldiers line up for chow at the Caribou Dining Facility at Camp Victory North. The temporary satellite facility serves four hot meals daily and is equipped complete with cable television and air conditioning.

By Spc. Andy Miller

122nd MPAD

'It's a tray of steaming hamburgers, hot dogs and fish filets. They're dripping, with mustard, tartar and mayonnaise. Trays piled high with pancakes and sausage links. Wash it down with fruit punch and other sweet drinks. Try the crab with rice, or a steak with peas. Bring another slice of the cheesecake, please.'

Food: It's a familiar sight to the food service specialists from the 1st Cavalry Division's headquarters company. They're not doing the cooking, though.

"Originally I didn't think we were going to have any kind of food service mission at all in Iraq," Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Anderson-Kaapa the senior food operations sergeant said. "Everything that they told us in the rear prior to deploying [indicated] that the Kellogg Brown & Root (KBR) guys would be handling the majority of the food service."

While it's true that KBR and their subcontractors do the cooking and serving, Anderson-Kaapa and his team still have a food service mission in Baghdad. Now, instead of cooking, these chefs are acting as quality assurance and quality control personnel. In this way they ensure the civilian-operated dining facility (DFAC) adheres to Army standards.

Presently the team works out of a smaller satellite dining facility, called the Caribou. Food is transported there from another DFAC because the Caribou doesn't have a kitchen. A larger, replacement DFAC with kitchen is currently under construction about 50 meters away.

At the Caribou, Anderson-Kaapa's team performs duties that include checking for proper food temperature, ensuring sanitation standards are met and overseeing the delivery of

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More Than a Medic

2-12 Scouts Say Their 'Doc' Has Nine Lives

By Spc. Bryan Kinkade

1st Cavalry Division PAO

CAMP BLACK JACK- It wasn't the only time Pfc. Merrick "Doc" Barnes patted himself down to make sure he had all his body parts, and it wouldn't be the last.

"When I opened my eyes, I was laying between the radios

and back seats," Barnes, the Scout Platoon's medic, said while reminiscing about the explosion.

It was a routine mission. The 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, Scout Platoon, was driving around the outskirts of the Abu Ghraib market, waiting for something

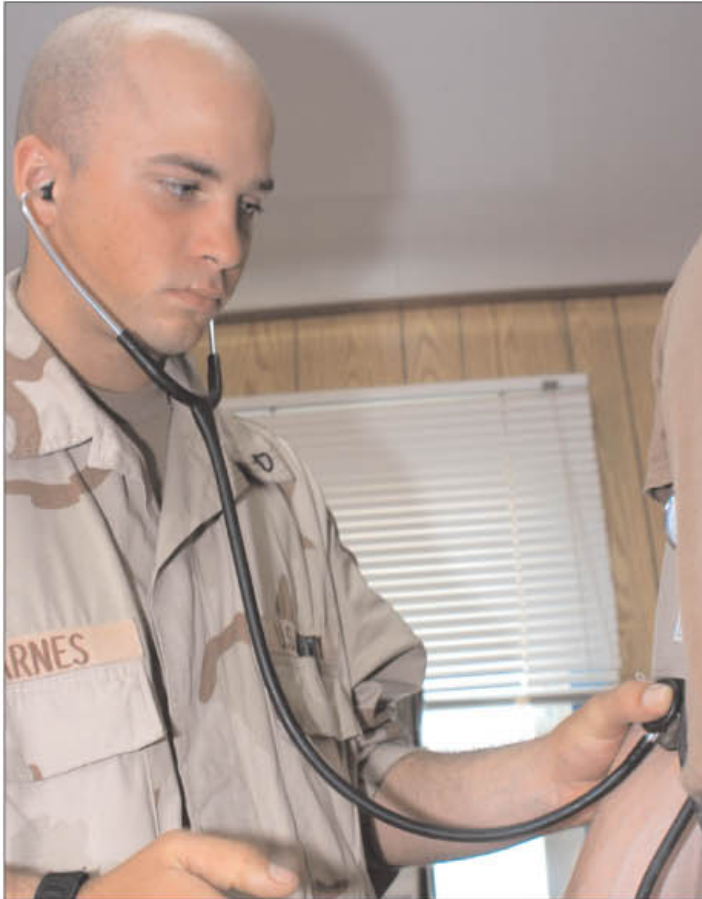
to happen; and it did. An improvised explosive device detonated under the driver-side tire and sent shrapnel through the truck.

"We'd driven down the street three or four times earlier that day," the Grand Rapid, Mich., native said. "There was a huge puddle [in the road], and

about 15 minutes left in [the mission]. We rolled through it again and, boom, an IED went off. It blew my door off. [There was] shrapnel in the dash and the top of the roof about two inches from my head. My floorboard was torn up like a sardine can."

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Medic Does It All for 2-12 Cav.



By Spc. Bryan Kinkade, 1st Cavalry Division PAO
Pfc. Merrick "Doc" Barnes checks his section sergeant's blood pressure. When Doc isn't out on mission, he is making sure his Soldiers are healthy.

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Barnes has survived an IED explosion, grenade attack, mortar attack and several small-arms fire attacks, during his four months in Iraq. His comrades call him the 'nine-lives medic.'

"I have some shrapnel in my room," Barnes said, about the pieces of metal that came from the IED that blew his

truck up. "I pressed it against my face and I was like, 'ooh, this would rip me apart.'"

When Barnes joined the Army, he had the vision of working in a hospital. He wanted to be a medic, but never knew what the Army had planned for him. When he arrived at Fort Hood, Texas, the Scout Platoon was looking for a medic.

"I asked for someone ... smart and pretty high speed, because we're out there by ourselves a lot," Staff Sgt. Jerry Helton, the scout platoon sergeant, said. "We needed someone that would be able to take care of us if we get hurt."

That's where Doc Barnes fits in. He was assigned to the scouts and began training to go to Iraq.

"We asked Doc if he wanted to be a driver and it didn't bother him one bit," Helton said. "He still takes his aid bag on patrols and still does his doc role."

But Barnes is not only a medic in these Soldiers' eyes: he is also a scout.

"[During training], sometimes he would be the first person to lay down cover fire for the [Soldier] crossing the street," Helton said. "We consider him more of a scout than a medic. At times, we have to remember that."

Now in Iraq, he stares danger in its face while he performs patrols, reconnaissance, searches, cordons, escorts, and other missions with the scouts.

During another mission, the scouts were performing an exterior cordon with some Estonian troops. Everything was going fine, until ...

Pulling security, Barnes caught something in the corner of his eye. Children throw

rocks at the scouts all the time, but Barnes thought differently.

"I saw something fly over the wall, took one step and dove into a doorway," Barnes said. "It blew up about 5 feet away from me. That was a big boom."

"When I was diving, I was like, 'I hope that's a grenade, or else I'm going to look stupid,'" Barnes said with a chuckle.

But when Doc hit the dirt, he called out 'Grenade!' and possibly saved the lives of the Estonian troops nearby.

"Luckily when I dove, it was a slight incline, and it saved my legs from getting hit," Barnes said.

He has been lucky so far and plans to stay that way. He has lost only one tooth and was hit by shrapnel in his lip. But he doesn't plan to stop these dangerous endeavors with the scouts.

"Through all of that, Doc's still on mission with me," Sgt. Joe Shultz, Barnes' section sergeant, said proudly. "He still goes on mission everyday, drives, and still does his doc duties."

"Doc is a good kid [and a] good Soldier," Helton said. He does his job and does it well, both as a driver and as a medic. No matter what Doc does down the road, [we'll] always look at him as a scout."

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Tornado Touches Down, Strong Winds Whip Through Washington

► From *Tacoma News Tribune*

A windstorm swept across Western Washington on Tuesday afternoon, bringing lightning, hail, power outages and a report of a tornado touching down near the Canadian border.

The National Weather Service received a report of a funnel cloud near Sumas, Whatcom County, shortly after 2 p.m., said Jeff Rood, a meteorologist in the weather service's Seattle office.

It was not known how long the tornado touched down for.

The swirling winds tore part of the roof off a Sumas-area barn, scattering strips of aluminum roofing across the

yard and tearing down power lines.

Tens of thousands of homes and businesses lost power at the height of the storm.

Port Townsend on the Olympic Peninsula reported the strongest winds: 45 mph sustained winds with gusts to 54 mph, Rood said.

No injuries were reported.

Not known as tornado country, Washington state averages one a year, Rood said.

A number of lightning strikes were seen in Whatcom County around the time of the funnel cloud report. About two hours later, the storm moved south to the King County area, turning relatively clear skies

gray and dumping heavy rain and hail in some parts of the region, including quarter-inch hail in Bellevue.

Mike Thorne, spokesman for the Snohomish County Public Utility District, said crews were working to restore power to about 50,000 to 60,000 customers.

About 30,000 Puget Sound Energy customers - most of them in Kitsap and Jefferson counties - lost power when trees blown over in high winds fell on power lines, spokesman Tim Bader said.

Several thousand King County customers lost power, and there were scattered outages reported in Skagit and Island counties.



Tacoma News Tribune

Downed trees lined South Tacoma Way in Tacoma, Wash. after a storm blew through western Washington. It brought lightning, hail, power outages, as well as the report of a tornado touching down east of Sumas, near the Canadian border. The strongest winds were reported in Port Townsend: 45 mph winds with gusts to 54 mph.

Food Service Personnel Provide Morale Enhancement

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food products. Later when the new DFAC is ready for business, the team will essentially act as supervisors over the contracted chefs and other personnel.

"They are getting an eye-opening experience in supervision. Almost like a non-commissioned officer," said Anderson-Kaapa of his junior

enlisted food service specialists.

According to Jon Clark, a KBR food service supervisor and former Army food service specialist, contract-operated DFACs like the Caribou offer the First Team something extra.

"The Army probably doesn't have enough personnel in the food service arena right now to handle facilities like

this (Caribou) on a deployment," Clark said. "I think the client (Army) gets a better facility."

An indoor facility with hot chow, air conditioning and cable television isn't something Clark has seen on his previous deployments.

"Food service is the biggest piece of morale that a Soldier can have," Anderson-Kaapa said. "If [Soldiers] can get chow consistently that tastes well and has a good appearance, Soldiers are a lot happier, especially when you have additional items like sodas, and different kinds of juices and drinks. It's definitely a morale enhancer."

'So when feeling hungry or feeling blue; take a break, and try something new. Have a seat and maybe you'll smile. Remove your cap and stay for a while. There's a new place for you, and your crew: the Caribou.'



Sgt. Angeleka Smith checks the temperature of potato salad with a laser thermometer. The food service specialists who work at the Caribou are responsible for ensuring that the civilian-operated facility meets Army standards. The food service mission at military camps in Iraq is a joint military-civilian effort.



Photos by Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Soldiers enter for chow at the temporary Caribou Dining Facility. Food served at the Caribou is transported from the Antelope DFAC. Behind the Caribou, a larger DFAC with a kitchen is under construction.

Today in History

April 29

► From historychannel.com

1429 Joan of Arc relieves Orleans
 1862 Union captures New Orleans
 1863 William Randolph Hearst is born
 1945 U.S. Seventh Army's 45th Infantry Division liberates Dachau, the first concentration camp established by Germany's Nazi regime
 1944 Last "Our Gang" film released
 1969 Duke Ellington gets Medal of Freedom
 1970 U.S.-South Vietnamese forces launch Cambodian "incursion"
 1992 Verdict in on the Rodney King trial, police acquittals in Los Angeles ignite riots

Today in Cav History



1945 - "B" Troop, 5th Cavalry Regiment and a group of engineers made an amphibious assault across the Ragay Gulf at Pasacao.

Thursday

High: 93
 Low: 68



Friday

High: 90
 Low: 67



Saturday

High: 87
 Low: 65



Associated Press

Smarty Jones is bathed by groom Mario Arringa after a workout at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. Smarty Jones, who won the Arkansas Derby April 10, is considered an underdog for Saturday's 130th running of the Kentucky Derby. The winner will take home \$5 million and a chance to continue on in pursuit of the elusive Triple Crown of horse racing.

TV GUIDE

	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
18:00	Pokemon: Johto League Champions/ Jackie Chan Adventures	Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ The Late Show with David Letterman	NHL Playoffs - 2nd Round Gm 4: San Jose Sharks @ Colorado Avalanche	Masterpiece Theater 17:00
19:00	Jeopardy/ Headline News	Access Hollywood 19:30		The Wild Thornberrys/ The Fairly Oddparents
20:00	ESPNNews/ HeadlineNews	Crocodile Dundee	SPORTSCENTER	The Simpsons/ The Cosby Show
21:00	Friends/ Scrubs/ Reel Time 21:50		MLB - Philadelphia Phillies @ St. Louis Cardinals	American Idol/ My Wife and Kids
22:00	The Bachelor	Lucas		The West Wing

Sports



MBL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CHICAGO 9
 CLEVELAND 8

BALTIMORE 3
 SEATTLE 1

BOSTON 6
 TAMPA BAY 0

DETROIT 10
 ANAHEIM 2

NEW YORK 5
 OAKLAND 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FLORIDA 9
 COLORADO 4

PITTSBURGH 4
 HOUSTON 2